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Area Wage Survey
Savannah, Ga.
March 1984

U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Summary
April 1984

This summary presents results of a March 1984 survey of occupational wages and supplementary benefits in the Savannah Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area, which consists of Bryan, Chatham, and Effingham Counties. This is 1 of 92 areas which the Bureau of Labor Statistics surveys at the request of the Employment Standards Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor for use in administering the Service Contract Act of 1965. In addition, the Bureau conducts more extensive studies of occupational wages and related benefits in 71 other areas throughout the United States. For information on these reports and other Bureau publications, contact any BLS regional office identified on the back page.

This study covered establishments employing 50 workers or more in manufacturing; transportation, communication, and other public utilities; wholesale trade; retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and selected services. A sample of 69 establishments employing 19,776 workers was selected to represent 174 establishments employing 30,680 workers in the area. (See table 5 for further information on the scope of the survey.) Data collected in the sample of establishments were projected to represent all establishments within the scope of the survey.

Table 1 provides hourly earnings information on office and plant workers employed in selected occupations common to a variety of industries. Tables 2, 3, and 4 present information on paid holidays, vacation pay provisions, and health, insurance, and pension plans for nonsupervisory production and related workers and office workers.

Occupational classification was based on a uniform set of job descriptions designed to take account of variations in job duties among establishments. The job descriptions used in the survey are available on request.

New or revised occupational descriptions are being introduced in this survey for secretaries, stenographers, word processors, messengers, receptionists, general maintenance workers, motor vehicle mechanics (formerly maintenance mechanics motor vehicles), and material handling laborers. Boiler tenders are no longer surveyed.

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Table 1. Hourly earnings[1] of selected occupations in Savannah, Ga., March 1984

Occupation	Number of workers			Hourly earnings (all workers)[1]			Number of workers receiving straight-time hourly earnings (in dollars) of —																					
	All[2]	Men	Women	Mean	Median	Middle range	3.20 and under 3.60	3.60 – 4.00	4.00 – 4.40	4.40 – 4.80	4.80 – 5.20	5.20 – 5.60	5.60 – 6.00	6.00 – 6.40	6.40 – 6.80	6.80 – 7.20	7.20 – 8.00	8.00 – 8.80	8.80 – 9.60	9.60 – 10.40	10.40 – 11.20	11.20 – 12.00	12.00 – 12.80	12.80 – 13.60	13.60 – 14.40	14.40 – 15.20
Secretaries	192	–	192	7.92	7.93	6.75– 9.00	–	–	–	–	6	–	8	17	20	13	33	36	32	20	5	2	–	–	–	–
Secretaries I	87	–	87	7.32	7.10	6.24– 8.35	–	–	–	–	6	–	7	13	12	7	15	12	7	5	3	–	–	–	–	–
Secretaries II	32	–	32	7.86	7.96	7.14– 8.63	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	3	2	8	11	5	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Secretaries III	33	–	33	9.08	9.13	8.74– 9.75	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	2	6	12	12	–	–	–	–	–	–
Secretaries IV	7	–	7	7.37	6.73	– –	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	4	–	–	1	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–
Stenographers	30	–	30	6.93	6.61	5.58– 7.94	–	–	4	–	–	5	2	2	4	2	4	5	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–
Stenographers I	19	–	19	6.35	5.94	5.48– 6.57	–	–	4	–	–	5	2	2	3	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–
Typists	56	–	56	5.88	5.70	5.09– 6.59	–	4	–	4	8	9	10	5	4	4	5	2	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Typists I	31	–	31	5.80	5.83	5.24– 6.50	–	4	–	–	4	4	6	4	4	1	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Word processors	21	–	21	5.57	5.48	5.25– 5.88	–	–	4	1	–	9	2	1	1	1	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Word processors I	18	–	18	5.37	5.44	4.87– 5.71	–	–	4	1	–	8	2	1	1	1	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Switchboard operators	19	–	19	4.76	4.40	4.20– 5.06	1	1	7	4	3	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–
Key entry operators	45	2	43	6.61	6.45	5.54– 7.66	–	–	1	2	3	7	5	4	3	5	9	4	1	–	–	–	–	1	–	–
Key entry operators I	36	2	34	6.36	5.94	5.27– 7.04	–	–	1	2	3	7	5	4	2	3	5	3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Computer operators	38	25	13	7.98	7.72	6.21–10.06	–	–	–	–	4	3	1	5	2	1	5	2	4	5	4	1	1	–	–	–
Computer operators I	24	13	11	7.40	6.53	5.44– 9.58	–	–	–	–	4	3	1	4	1	1	2	1	2	2	2	1	–	–	–	–
Computer operators II	13	11	2	8.74	8.86	– –	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	–	3	1	2	3	2	–	1	–	–	–
Drafters	93	64	5	8.16	8.32	7.18– 9.47	2	2	–	2	2	–	1	2	9	6	14	21	12	10	6	3	1	–	–	–
Drafters II	21	10	4	7.10	7.07	6.44– 8.26	–	–	–	1	2	–	1	1	5	1	4	5	–	1	–	1	–	–	–	–
Drafters III	41	32	1	8.19	8.10	7.25– 8.77	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	4	4	9	13	5	2	2	1	–	–	–	–
Drafters IV	25	16	–	9.90	9.75	9.29–10.48	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	3	7	7	4	2	1	–	–	–
Electronics technicians	96	88	–	10.98	10.40	10.00–12.35	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	1	10	1	17	28	1	21	6	–	8
Electronics technicians II	81	77	–	11.23	10.40	10.40–12.35	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	8	1	9	26	–	21	6	–	8
Maintenance carpenters	31	31	–	11.66	10.86	10.06–13.79	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	1	4	2	9	–	1	–	9	4
Maintenance electricians	168	168	–	12.13	12.38	10.40–13.79	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	4	2	6	12	48	7	5	1	66	16
Maintenance painters	35	35	–	11.71	13.27	9.17–13.27	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	9	–	5	–	2	16	–	2
Maintenance machinists	113	113	–	11.63	11.77	10.40–13.79	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	10	10	27	28	4	–	20	10
Maintenance mechanics (machinery)	412	412	–	11.42	10.62	10.40–13.79	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	–	5	58	32	168	17	1	1	77	50
Maintenance pipefitters	187	187	–	12.56	13.79	10.40–13.79	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	68	15	–	–	87	34
Motor vehicle mechanics	89	89	–	10.45	9.86	8.50–12.25	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	15	13	11	11	14	1	4	–	12	8
General maintenance workers	35	35	–	5.80	5.50	4.95– 6.60	–	–	2	5	5	7	2	1	7	1	5	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Truckdrivers	268	256	4	8.55	8.46	4.85–10.04	4	–	7	–	60	7	6	10	3	7	11	33	25	28	8	–	–	59	–	–
Truckdrivers, light truck	52	52	–	7.66	8.72	4.85– 9.77	4	–	–	–	15	–	–	–	–	–	–	9	1	23	–	–	–	–	–	–
Truckdrivers, medium truck	109	97	4	8.84	7.99	4.85–13.48	–	–	3	–	45	3	–	–	–	1	6	–	–	–	8	–	–	43	–	–
Truckdrivers, tractor-trailer	87	87	–	9.32	9.46	8.46– 9.46	–	–	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	5	24	24	5	–	–	–	16	–	–
Material handling laborers	155	154	1	6.03	6.50	5.42– 7.00	25	7	–	3	–	19	–	2	55	32	1	1	9	–	–	1	–	–	–	–
Forklift operators	292	287	5	8.11	7.99	6.40–10.02	–	4	–	4	26	6	10	10	30	16	41	41	–	75	24	5	–	–	–	–
Guards	335	304	21	4.47	3.75	3.50– 4.90	116	85	17	23	38	9	5	5	10	–	4	5	18	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Guards I	320	292	18	4.24	3.75	3.50– 4.75	116	85	17	23	38	9	5	5	10	–	4	5	3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Janitors, porters, and cleaners	305	144	128	4.56	3.76	3.35– 5.15	143	15	43	6	25	2	7	11	2	19	25	–	5	–	1	–	1	–	–	–

[1] Excludes premium pay for overtime and for work on weekends, holidays, and late shifts. Incentive payments, such as those resulting from piecework, production bonuses, and commission systems, are included in the wages reported; nonproduction bonuses are excluded. Cost-of-living allowances are considered as part of the workers' regular pay. Hourly earnings reported for salaried workers are derived from regular salaries divided by the corresponding standard hours of work. The wages of learners, apprentices, and handicapped workers are excluded. The mean is computed for each job by totaling the earnings of all workers and dividing by the number of workers. The median designates position—one-half of the workers receive the same as or more and one-half receive the same as or less than the rate shown. The middle range is defined by two rates of pay; one-fourth of the workers earn the same as or less than the lower of these rates and one-fourth earn the same as or more than the higher rate.

[2] May include data for workers not identified by sex. Similarly, for occupations with more than one level, data are included in the overall classification when a subclassification is not shown or information to subclassify is not available.

Table 2. Annual paid holidays for full-time workers in Savannah, Ga., March 1984

Item	Production and related workers	Office workers
All full-time workers (in percent)	100	100
In establishments not providing paid holidays	12	2
In establishments providing paid holidays	88	98
Number of holidays:		
1 holiday	(1)	–
2 holidays	4	1
4 holidays	3	(1)
5 holidays	8	4
6 holidays	10	8
Plus 1 half day	(1)	2
7 holidays	5	7
Plus 1 half day	–	3
9 holidays	4	21
10 holidays	8	14
11 holidays	28	22
12 holidays	1	7
13 holidays	14	9
Average number of paid holidays where provided (in days)	9.0	9.5

[1] Less than 0.5 percent.
Note: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals.

Table 3. Paid vacation provisions[1] for full-time workers in Savannah, Ga., March 1984

Item	Production and related workers	Office workers
All full-time workers (in percent)	100	100
In establishments not providing paid vacations	2	–
In establishments providing paid vacations	98	100
Length-of-time payment	83	100
Percentage payment	18	–
By vacation pay provisions for:[2]		
6 months of service:		
Under 1 week	14	13
1 week	13	47
Over 1 and under 2 weeks	–	2
1 year of service:		
1 week	69	26
2 weeks	29	74
Over 2 and under 3 weeks	(*)	–
2 years of service:		
1 week	40	20
2 weeks	58	80
Over 3 and under 4 weeks	(*)	–
3 years of service:		
1 week	11	2
2 weeks	87	98
Over 3 and under 4 weeks	(*)	–
5 years of service:		
1 week	8	1
2 weeks	77	79
Over 2 and under 3 weeks	–	6
3 weeks	12	13
Over 3 and under 4 weeks	(*)	–
10 years of service:		
1 week	7	1
2 weeks	23	14
3 weeks	62	71
Over 3 and under 4 weeks	–	6
4 weeks	6	7
Over 4 and under 5 weeks	(*)	–
15 years of service:		
1 week	6	1
2 weeks	23	13
3 weeks	26	23
4 weeks	43	63
6 weeks	(*)	–
20 years of service:		
1 week	6	1
2 weeks	23	12
3 weeks	10	6
4 weeks	36	58
5 weeks	23	24
7 weeks	(*)	–
25 years of service:		
1 week	6	1
2 weeks	23	12
3 weeks	8	5
4 weeks	18	33
5 weeks	28	41
6 weeks	14	9
7 weeks	(*)	–
30 years of service:		
1 week	6	1
2 weeks	23	12
3 weeks	8	5
4 weeks	9	23
5 weeks	35	46
6 weeks	17	14
7 weeks	(*)	–
Maximum vacation available:		
1 week	6	1
2 weeks	23	12
3 weeks	8	5
4 weeks	9	23
5 weeks	35	46
6 weeks	17	14
7 weeks	(*)	–

[1] Includes basic plans only. Excludes plans such as vacation bonus, vacation-savings, and those plans which offer 'extended' or 'sabbatical' benefits beyond basic plans to workers with qualifying lengths of service. Typical of such exclusions are plans in the steel, aluminum, and can industries.

[2] Includes payment other than 'length of time,' such as percentage of annual earnings or flat-sum payments converted to an equivalent time basis; a payment of 2 percent of annual earnings was considered as 1 week's pay. Periods of service were chosen arbitrarily and do not necessarily reflect individual provisions for progression. For example, the changes in proportions at 10 years' service include changes in provisions occurring between 5 and 10 years. Estimates are cumulative. Thus, the proportion eligible for at least 3 weeks' pay after 10 years includes those eligible for at least 3 weeks' pay after fewer years of service.

[3] Less than 0.5 percent.

Note: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals.

Table 4. Health, insurance, and pension plans offered to full-time workers in Savannah, Ga., March 1984

Item	Production and related workers	Office workers
All full-time workers (in percent)	100	100
In establishments offering at least one of the benefits shown below[1]	92	98
Life insurance	90	98
Noncontributory plans	66	77
Accidental death and dismemberment insurance	64	65
Noncontributory plans	49	45
Sickness and accident insurance or sick leave or both[2]	75	90
Sickness and accident insurance	57	37
Noncontributory plans	51	32
Sick leave (full pay and no waiting period)	33	77
Sick leave (partial pay or waiting period)	5	5
Long-term disability insurance	25	70
Noncontributory plans	18	39
Hospitalization insurance	92	98
Noncontributory plans	51	44
Surgical insurance	92	98
Noncontributory plans	51	44
Medical insurance	90	94
Noncontributory plans	50	44
Major medical insurance	92	98
Noncontributory plans	51	44
Dental insurance	30	46
Noncontributory plans	25	26
Health maintenance organization	-	-
Noncontributory plans	-	-
Retirement pension	67	91
Noncontributory plans	66	78

[1] Estimates listed after type of benefit are for all plans for which at least part of the cost is borne by the employer. 'Noncontributory plans' include only those financed entirely by the employer. Excluded are legally required plans such as workers' compensation, social security, and railroad retirement.

[2] Unduplicated total of workers receiving sick leave or sickness and accident insurance shown separately below. Sick leave plans are limited to those which definitely establish at least the minimum number of days' pay that each employee can expect. Informal sick leave allowances determined on an individual basis are excluded.

Table 5. Establishments and workers within scope of survey and number studied in Savannah, Ga.,[1] March 1984

Industry division[2]	Minimum employment in establishments in scope of survey	Number of establishments		Workers in establishments				
				Within scope of survey				Studied[4]
		Within scope of survey[3]	Studied	Total[4]		Full-time production and related workers	Full-time office workers	
				Number	Percent			
All divisions	50	174	69	30,680	100	18,653	3,708	19,776
Manufacturing	50	42	18	13,642	44	9,197	1,452	10,294
Nonmanufacturing[5]	50	132	51	17,038	56	9,456	2,256	9,482

[1] The Savannah Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area, as defined by the Office of Management and Budget through February 1974, consists of Bryan, Chatham, and Effingham Counties. The "workers within scope of survey" estimates shown in this table provide a reasonably accurate description of the size and composition of the labor force included in the survey. The estimates are not intended, however, to serve as a basis of comparison with other statistical series for the area to measure employment trends or levels since (1) planning of wage surveys requires the use of establishment data compiled considerably in advance of the payroll period studied, and (2) small establishments are excluded from the scope of the survey.

[2] The 1972 edition of the Standard Industrial Classification Manual was used in classifying establishments by industry division.

[3] Includes all establishments with total employment at or above the minimum limitation. All outlets of companies in such industries as trade, finance, auto repair service, and motion picture theaters (within a Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area or nonmetropolitan county) are considered as one establishment.

[4] Includes executive, professional, part-time, and other workers excluded from the separate production and office categories.

[5] Includes transportation, communication, and other public utilities (excluding taxicabs and services incidental to water transportation); wholesale trade; retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; hotels and other lodging places; laundries and other personal services; automobile repair, rental, and parking; motion pictures; nonprofit membership organizations (excluding religious and charitable organizations); engineering and architectural services; and miscellaneous business services. Major industries excluded from this survey are agriculture; mining; construction; some services (notably educational institutions and medical services); and government operations.

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